

to Catholic homes," he said. "We were terribly shocked. This has always been such a peaceful city."

The recent attacks follow what church leaders call "a false lull," occurring after the international outrage last year over the burning alive of Graham Staines, an Australian missionary, and his two small sons last year.

"Physically, many of the incidents are now less obvious," said John Dayal, secretary general of the All India Christian Council. "But there is a 24-hour reign of terror, which occasionally bursts into violence."

Last year the Indian government reported 240 incidents—including about 22 murders—in the year leading up to 2000, and almost every week newspapers carry an account of a ransacked church, an assaulted or murdered priest or a vandalized cemetery.

Many of the assailants are member of the Bajrang Dal, a militant Hindu nationalist organization linked to the BJP, which has carried out many of the most violent attacks on Christians in India.

Church leaders maintain, however, that all the attacks—whether they are carried out by the Bajrang Dal or its fellow Hindu nationalist organizations—have the tacit approval of the BJP government.

"The Bajrang Dal are ruffians, but someone must have told them what to do the previous night," said Mr. Dayal.

#### PAYING TRIBUTE TO CASEY SWANSON

#### HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 26, 2002*

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with a great deal of pride that I pay today to senior Colorado State Parks ranger Casey Swanson, whose courageous act of capturing two dangerous fugitives went above and beyond the call of duty, and displayed a measure of heroism worthy of being brought before this body of Congress. During his tenure as a Colorado State Parks ranger, Casey has embodied the ideals of integrity, honesty and courage that we, as Americans, have come to expect from the men and women who serve in our state parks. I, along with the citizens of Colorado, am both grateful and proud of Casey's extraordinary act of valor, and believe it appropriate to pay tribute to him for his courage and bravery.

Though not typically in the job description, Casey's extraordinary efforts to apprehend two armed killers near Salida, Colorado on September 29, 2001 are a testament to his relentless dedication to his job, to his community and to his state. After checking on a colleague who was manning a roadblock, Casey became involved in the search for the two killers. Being familiar with the area, he led a search team into the Castle Gardens area and later stood watch in the dark above a creek that ran through the area. After waiting for some time, Casey spotted the fugitives and ultimately coaxed them out of their hiding place, enabling other officers to join him in peacefully detaining the killers. Because of his incredible bravery, these criminals are now in the hands of law enforcement officials, and of no threat to anyone else in the area. His courage in the

face of both fear and adversity is truly remarkable, and for his efforts, Casey was named the outstanding ranger of the year by the Colorado State Parks.

Mr. Ranger, I am honored today to rise and pay tribute to a man whose actions are the very essence of all that makes this country great, and I am deeply honored to be able to bring them to the attention to this body of Congress. It is in times of great need that true heroes emerge, and I am proud to say Casey Swanson is a hero not only to me, but to his family, his friends and to this country. It is with a great deal of pride that I stand to honor him today, and wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

#### MUSEUM AND LIBRARY SERVICES ACT OF 2002

#### HON. PETER HOEKSTRA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 26, 2002*

Mr. HOEKSTRA. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing a bipartisan bill to reauthorize the Museum and Library Services Act. I would like to thank the Ranking Member of the Subcommittee on Select Education, Mr. ROEMER, for working with me to put together a bill that I trust will have broad, bipartisan support in the Congress. The Museum and Library Services Act of 1996 authorizes the Federal library and museum program until the end of fiscal year 2002. The Subcommittee on Select Education of the Committee on Education and the Workforce has been working to reauthorize the Museum and Library Services Act before it expires.

I believe there will be broad support for this reauthorization because museums and libraries are a vital part of our society. Attendance at American museums is now at more than 865 million visits per year and today's 21st century library is not just a provider of books; instead, the typical American library coordinates a complete and comprehensive approach to community development and services. Under current law, the Museum and Library Services Act:

Provides modest but essential federal support, in partnership with State and local private and public sector sources, for museum and library contributions to public education services and stewardship of the Nation's cultural heritage collections;

Funds the one Federal agency (the Institute of Museum and Library Services) devoted exclusively to museums and libraries, which are natural partners with out nation's schools; and

Encourages model cooperation between museums and libraries as no other legislation does.

The Library Services and Technology subtitle is the only Federal program solely devoted to supporting libraries. This legislation assists libraries in providing crucial services to the communities they serve. Throughout our Nation, libraries are at the forefront of reading and family literacy programs. And importantly, libraries serve as essential links to the business community, assisting with job creation and training programs, and assisting with busi-

ness development initiatives as well. They are also critical to many people with disabilities, providing them with specialized materials and resources that are obtainable in a single location. For older Americans, libraries provide a place to interact with others, use the Internet, and receive services. For those persons of limited resources or who live in remote areas, libraries provide access to books and reference materials, computers and the Internet, and community-based social services that are often available no where else.

The Museum and Library Services Act also supports museums in their educational role and assists museums in modernizing their methods and facilities so that they are better able to conserve the cultural, historic, and scientific heritage of the United States. Museums play an important role in the education of people of all ages. Specifically, most American museums provide K-12 educational programming, with most using local and State curriculum standards to shape their programs. Additionally, museums increasingly partner with libraries to offer joint educational opportunities for adults as well as children.

Museums can be an important source of cultural and historical knowledge for people, as they learn about the history and traditions of our country and our shared identity as Americans. Museums increasingly serve as places where people of different backgrounds, economic levels and home locations come together and not only share the experience of viewing their community's artifacts and natural objects, but also discuss community issues.

The Museum and Library Services Act of 2002 makes several modifications to current law to streamline and strengthen museum and library services across the country:

Coordination—Ensures that library activities are coordinated with activities under P.L. 107-110, the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001;

Museum and Library Services Board—Eliminates references to the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science and consolidates its advisory responsibilities under the existing Museum Services Board that will expand to include library services. The purpose of this change is to consolidate museum and library board activities under a single statute;

National Awards for Museum and Library Service—Authorizes the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) Director to award a National Award for Library Service as well as a National Award for Museum Service;

Analysis of Impact of Museum and Library Services—Ensures that administrative funds are also used to conduct annual analyses of the impact of museum and library services to identify needs and trends of services provided under museum and library programs; and

Minimum Allotment—Increases the minimum State allotment for library programs to \$500,000 (roughly a 46 percent increase over current law).

I hope that my colleagues on both sides of the aisle cosponsor the Museum and Library Services Act of 2002. I look forward to moving this legislation through the Committee on Education and the Workforce and to the Floor so that we can ensure that our Nation's museums and libraries are getting the best assistance we are able to provide from the Federal level.